

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag comprising:

5 an interior compartment sized to hold a portable computing device therein, said portable computing device being of size on the order of at least one of a laptop or a notebook computing device;

 a top including an opening providing access to said interior compartment;

 a bottom opposite said top; and

10 an exterior surface coupling said top and bottom, said exterior surface presenting in cross section of said computer bag a substantially hourglass shape having a first lobe and a second lobe, said first lobe including said top, said second lobe including said bottom, said first lobe being smaller than said second lobe.

15 2. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 1 wherein a distance between a widest portion of said second lobe and said top corresponds to a lumbar height, said lumbar height corresponding to a vertical distance between a user lumbar region and a surface upon which said user sits.

20 3. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 1 wherein a front-to-back dimension of said first lobe is less than a front-to-back dimension of said second lobe.

 4. (Original) A portable computer bag according to claim 1 further comprising at least one of a handle and strap, said at least one of said handle and strap being attached to said exterior
25 surface.

 5. (Original) A portable computer bag according to claim 1 further comprising a flap removably positionable relative to said opening.

6. (Currently Amended) A portable computer bag according to claim 1 further comprising a resilient structure maintaining said substantially hourglass shape of said exterior surface.

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7. (Currently Amended) A portable computer bag according to claim 6 wherein said resilient structure is of sufficient resiliency to maintain generally said substantially hourglass shape when used as a lumbar support between a user lumbar region and a seat back.

10 8. (Original) A portable computer bag according to claim 6 wherein said resilient structure comprises:

a first portion and a second portion, said first portion having a front-to-back thickness less than a front-to-back thickness of said second portion;

an exterior material surrounds said resilient structure; and

15 padding lies between said exterior material and said resilient structure.

9. (Currently Amended) A portable computer bag according to claim 6 wherein said resilient structure is of sufficient resiliency to maintain generally said substantially hourglass shape when used as a lumbar support between a user lumbar region and a seat back.

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10. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag comprising:

an interior compartment;

a top including an opening providing access to said interior compartment;

a bottom opposite said top; and

25 an exterior surface coupling said top and bottom, said exterior surface presenting in cross section of said computer bag a substantially hourglass shape having a first lobe and a second lobe, said first lobe including said top, said second lobe including said bottom, said first lobe being smaller than said second lobe.

11. (Original) A portable computer bag according to claim 10 wherein said interior compartment is sized to hold a portable computing device therein, said portable computing device being of size on the order of at least one of a laptop and a notebook computing device.

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12. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 10 wherein said exterior surface makes continuous transition from said first lobe to said second lobe from said top through said bottom.

10 13. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 10 wherein said first lobe is smaller in cross-sectional area than that of said second lobe.

14. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 10 wherein a line from said top to said bottom divides a cross-sectional area of each of said first lobe and said
15 second lobe, said first lobe extending a first distance generally parallel to a front-to-back dimension and away from said line, said second lobe extending a second distance generally parallel to said front-to-back dimension and away from said line, said first distance being less than said second distance.

20 15. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 14 wherein said line generally bi-sects said cross-sectional area of said first lobe and said second lobe.

16. (Currently Amended) A portable computer bag according to claim 10 further comprising a resilient structure maintaining said substantially hourglass shape of said exterior
25 surface.

17. (Currently Amended) A portable computer bag according to claim 16 wherein said resilient structure is of sufficient resiliency to maintain generally said substantially hourglass shape when used as a lumbar support between a user lumbar region and a seat back.

5 18. (Original) A portable computer bag according to claim 16 wherein said resilient structure comprises:

 a first portion and a second portion, said first portion having a front-to-back thickness less than a front-to-back thickness of said second portion;

 an exterior material surrounds said resilient structure; and

10 padding lies between said exterior material and said resilient structure.

19. (Currently Amended) A portable computer bag comprising:
 structural means forming in cross section a substantially hourglass shape, said
 substantially hourglass shape having a first lobe and a second lobe, said structural means
15 establishing therein an interior compartment; and

 padding means surrounding said structural means, said padding means providing an
 external surface generally following said substantially hourglass shape.

20. (Original) A portable computer bag according to claim 19 wherein said interior
20 compartment is sized to hold a portable computing device therein, said portable computing
 device being of size on the order of at least one of a laptop and a notebook computing device.

21. (Previously Presented) A portable computer bag according to claim 19 wherein said
 exterior surface presents in cross section a first lobe and a second lobe, said first lobe being
25 smaller than said second lobe.

22. (Withdrawn) A method of portable computing device use by an operator thereof, the
 method comprising:

conveying the portable computing device in a travel bag;
removing the portable computing device from said bag at a work site, said work site including a chair and a work surface;

operating the portable computing device resting on said work surface; and

5 placing said travel bag on said chair between said chair and a user of said portable computing device, said placing including placing a first portion of said bag above a second portion of said bag, said second portion being smaller than said first portion, said second portion being placed substantially against a lumbar region of the user.

10 23. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 22 wherein said step of conveying includes engaging said travel bag at a handle thereof.

24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 22 wherein said step of removing includes opening said bag at a flap thereof.

15 25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 22 wherein said step of placing includes placing a relatively thicker portion of said bag in an upper position adjacent a lumbar portion of said user.

20 26. (Original) A portable computing device travel bag comprising:
a molded resilient structure, said structure including a first portion and a second portion, said first portion having a front-to-back thickness less than a front-to-back thickness of said second portion;

an exterior surface material surrounding said molded resilient structure; and

25 padding between said exterior surface material and said molded resilient structure.

27. (Previously Presented) A travel bag according to claim 26 further comprising at least one of a handle and strap, said at least one of said handle and strap being attached to said exterior surface material.

5 28. (Previously Presented) A travel bag according to claim 26 wherein said molded resilient structure, said exterior surface material, and said padding share an opening allowing access to an interior of said molded resilient structure.

10 29. (Previously Presented) A travel bag according to claim 26 wherein said molded resilient structure defines an interior of said bag, said interior being suitable in size to accommodate a portable computing device.